

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

1. (cancelled)
2. (currently amended) The vehicle coupler of claim [[1]] 6 further comprising a lever that couples said lock cylinder to said plurality of engagement pins.
3. (original) The vehicle coupler of claim 2, wherein said lever comprises a slot for receiving a protrusion on a cam coupled to said lock cylinder.
4. (original) The vehicle coupler of claim 2, wherein said lever comprises a plurality of slots each receiving a pin coupled to one of said plurality of engagement pins.
5. (original) The vehicle coupler of claim 4, wherein each of said lever plurality of slots has two end portions, a first end portion located toward an edge of said lever and a second end portion located toward a center portion of said lever.
6. (currently amended) ~~The vehicle coupler of claim 1 further comprising~~ A vehicle coupler comprising:
a coupler housing;
a locking cylinder disposed within said coupler housing and mechanically coupled to a plurality of engagement pins; and
a blocker positioned between said plurality of engagement pins;
wherein rotation of said lock cylinder moves said engagement pins between two positions, a first position wherein said plurality of engagement pins extend beyond said coupler housing and a second position wherein said plurality of engagement pins do not extend beyond said coupler housing.

7. (currently amended) The vehicle coupler of claim [[1]] 6 further comprising a biasing means located between said plurality of engagement pins.

8. (currently amended) The vehicle coupler of claim [[1]] 6 further comprising a rotatable shaft that couples said lock cylinder to said plurality of engagement pins.

9. (original) The vehicle coupler of claim 8 further comprising a generally circular cam that includes a plurality of slots, each receiving a pin coupled to one of said plurality of engagement pins.

10. (currently amended) The vehicle coupler lock of claim [[1]] 6, wherein said lock cylinder is located on a side surface of said coupler housing.

11. (currently amended) A vehicle coupler comprising:
a lock cylinder disposed within a coupler housing and coupled to a cam, said cam including a protrusion;
a lever including a first slot for receiving said protrusion and a second and third slot located on an opposite end of the lever as the first slot;
a pair of pins secured within said second and third slots;
a pair of engagement pins, wherein said pair of pins are secured to said pair of engagement pins;

wherein rotation of said lock cylinder moves said pair of engagement pins between two positions, a first position wherein said plurality of engagement pins extend beyond said coupler housing and a second position wherein said plurality of engagement pins do not extend beyond said coupler housing.

12. (original) The vehicle coupler of claim 11 further comprising a blocker positioned between said pair of engagement pins.

13. (original) The vehicle coupler of claim 11 further comprising a biasing means located between said pair of engagement pins.

14. (currently amended) A vehicle hitch assembly comprising:
a receiver including a pair of apertures; and
a coupler including a pair of engagement pins that are selectively received in said pair of apertures;

wherein said coupler comprises:
a lock cylinder disposed within a coupler housing and coupled to a cam, said cam including a protrusion;

a lever including a first slot for receiving said protrusion and a second and third slot located on an opposite end of the lever as the first slot;

a pair of pins secured within said second and third slots, wherein said pair of pins are secured to said pair of engagement pins;

wherein rotation of said lock cylinder moves said pair of engagement pins between two positions, a first position wherein said plurality of engagement pins extend beyond said coupler housing and a second position wherein said plurality of engagement pins do not extend beyond said coupler housing.

15. (original) The vehicle hitch assembly of claim 14 further comprising a blocker positioned between said pair of engagement pins.

16. (original) The vehicle hitch assembly of claim 14 further comprising a biasing means located between said pair of engagement pins.

17. (original) The vehicle hitch assembly of claim 14 further comprising a ball mount plate and a hitch ball.

18. (original) The vehicle hitch assembly of claim 14 further comprising a hitch bar coupled to said vehicle.

19. (withdrawn)

20. (withdrawn)

21. (new) A vehicle coupler for locking a trailer to a vehicle for purposes of towing the trailer with the vehicle, said coupler comprising:

a coupler housing; and

a locking cylinder disposed within said coupler housing and mechanically coupled to a plurality of engagement pins;

wherein rotation of said lock cylinder moves said engagement pins between two positions, a locked position wherein said plurality of engagement pins extend beyond said coupler housing and an unlocked position wherein said plurality of engagement pins do not extend beyond said coupler housing.

22. (new) The vehicle coupler of claim 21 further comprising a lever that couples said lock cylinder to said plurality of engagement pins.

23. (new) The vehicle coupler of claim 22, wherein said lever comprises a slot for receiving a protrusion on a cam coupled to said lock cylinder.

24. (new) The vehicle coupler of claim 22, wherein said lever comprises a plurality of slots each receiving a pin coupled to one of said plurality of engagement pins.

25. (new) The vehicle coupler of claim 24, wherein each of said lever plurality of slots has two end portions, a first end portion located toward an edge of said lever and a second end portion located toward a center portion of said lever.

26. (new) The vehicle coupler of claim 21 further comprising a blocker positioned between said plurality of engagement pins.

27. (new) The vehicle coupler of claim 21 further comprising a biasing means located between said plurality of engagement pins.

28. (new) The vehicle coupler of claim 21 further comprising a rotatable shaft that couples said lock cylinder to said plurality of engagement pins.

29. (new) The vehicle coupler of claim 28 further comprising a generally circular cam that includes a plurality of slots, each receiving a pin coupled to one of said plurality of engagement pins.

30. (new) The vehicle coupler lock of claim 21, wherein said lock cylinder is located on a side surface of said coupler housing.